

REMARKS

Claims 1, 5, 6, 8-10, 12-14, and 16-24 are pending in the present application (“Application”). By this Amendment and Response, claims 2-4, 7, 11, and 15 have been canceled. New claims 18-24 have been added. A number of amendments have been made in order to improve the grammatical structure of the claims; Applicant does not regard such amendments as being narrowing or as being made for reasons substantially related to patentability. The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the Application in view of these amendments and the following remarks.

I. THE CLAIMS ARE PATENTABLE OVER THE CITED PRIOR ART

A. Overview Comparison of the Present Invention and Bohm

A discussion of some general differences between the present invention and the primary reference cited by the Examiner (Bohm) in rejecting the Applicants’ claim may aid in understanding each claim’s difference from Bohm.

The present invention generally pertains to methods for searching a database based on a query where attributes extracted from the query are converted into linguistic pattern strings that are then matched with linguistic pattern strings from the database. The invention has the further flexibility of allowing the user to modify search parameters by selecting match areas or a search index property.

While Bohm discloses searches of a database based on a query, Bohm pertains to an automated process (e.g., “Database queries are automatically created and executed . . . ,” [Abstract]; “[I]t is highly desirable to automate the process of finding specific records . . . ,” [Col. 1, ll. 46-47]) -- rather than providing for the flexibility of user parameter selections.

In contrast with Bohm’s “automatically created and executed” searches, Applicant’s present invention provides the user choices in how the searches are created and executed. Just as one non-limiting example set forth in the specification, the user may select the number of characters used by each index (e.g., Claim 1 and specification, paragraphs 00093, 01017-0116) (i.e., select the search index property), the user may select which portion of inputted information is used for matching purposes -- for example, the user may choose that

the name and address be used for potential matching, or the name and zip code, or only the city, etc. (e.g., Claim 18 and specification, paragraphs 0029, 0030) (i.e., select the matching area(s)), or the user may choose which criteria are used for filtering of a combined search result (e.g., Claim 10 and specification, paragraphs 0029, 0033).

Consider the difference a user would experience in using the Bohm invention and Applicant's invention. In using Bohm, the user would enter a query for searching, say for example: John Doe, 315 Smith Street, Richmond, Virginia 23229, and the process would automatically create and execute the search -- without direction from the user. However, in an exemplary embodiment of Applicants' invention, the user might enter the query and then choose to have, for a particular search, the search use only John Doe's name and city and the user may choose four as the number of characters to be used for N-gram purposes. Bohm does not remotely teach or suggest this robust functionality of permitting user selection of the index property (Claim 1, 13, 17) or the match area(s) (Claim 9, Claim 18).

Further, while the Bohm user would be limited to the same search result regardless of the number of times the user executed a search based on the same inputted information, the user of Applicant's invention could perform repeated searches using the same inputted information -- changing the choice of search parameters with each search, in order to reduce or enlarge the number of results.

B. Paragraph 5 Rejections of Claims 1, 5, 6, 9, 10, 13, and 14

Claims 1, 5, 6, 9, 10, 13, and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bohm et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,404,507 ("Bohm"). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

1. Claim 1

Claim 1 as amended recites a method for comparing a query against data contained within a database comprising the steps of: (a) receiving said query; (b) extracting a plurality of attributes from a plurality of potential match areas from said query; (c) converting said plurality of attributes from said query, using at least one linguistic pattern matching analytical tool, into a plurality of linguistic pattern strings; (d) comparing, using at least one user selectable index property, said plurality of linguistic pattern strings with at least one

stored linguistic pattern string from at least one stored attribute contained within said database for providing a set of matches; (e) analyzing said set of matches, using said at least one linguistic pattern matching analytical tool, to provide at least one set of matched attributes; (f) combining all of said at least one set of matched attributes to provide a combined result; and (g) wherein at least one of the actions of receiving, extracting, converting, comparing, analyzing, and combining is implemented using at least one data processing system.

2. The Bohm Patent Does Not Disclose or Suggest the Features of Claim 1

“A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.” MPEP § 2131 (quoting *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co.*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987).

The Applicants respectfully submit that Bohm does not disclose all the features of Claim 1. Claim 1 requires that the comparing step (d) use at least one user selectable index property. As noted in the Application’s specification¹:

[0093] These key/value pairs may enable or disable individual indexing types used by the matching algorithm. As the number of indexes used increases, the likelihood of finding potential word matches also increases. However, as the number of indexes used increases, storage space and processing time required by the matching algorithm also increases.

...

[0107] In addition to the indexing techniques described above, the [name.indexTuning] section may also allow a user to customize certain index properties by changing values in key/value pairs. Examples of such key/value pairs include:

[0108] metaphoneLength=#

¹ Applicant cites to the specification in order to show the support for the claimed features and to assist the Examiner in understanding the invention. Applicant intends no disclaimer or limitation in citing to the specification. If Applicant cites to one embodiment from the specification, but not another, this is only in furtherance of economy in setting forth this response, and no disclaimer is intended or effected.

[0109] phonexLength=#
[0110] soundexLength=#
[0111] alphabeticNgramLength=#
[0112] consonantNgramLength=#
[0113] fdiNgramLength=#
[0114] fmlNgramLength=#
[0115] numericNgramLength=

[0116] Such key/value pairs may set the number of characters used by each of index. In a preferred embodiment, values smaller than the default may result in more comprehensive indexing, but may also result in too many matches to be useful. Values larger than the default result in poorer indexing.

Bohm does not disclose nor remotely suggest the use of at least one user selectable index property.

Moreover, Bohm does not disclose nor remotely suggest extracting attributes from match areas and then converting those attributes to linguistic pattern strings compared to the database being searched. At best, Bohm merely teaches that search terms can be expanded to include common misspellings, acronyms, and the like.

For at least the above reason, the Applicants submit that Claim 1 is patentable over Bohm. The Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) be withdrawn.

3. The Bohm Patent Does Not Disclose or Suggest the Features of Claim 5

Claim 5 previously pertained to database searches for "restricted parties" information. In order to clarify Claim 5, the language "restricted parties" has been deleted and the language "parties approved for receiving certain goods" has been added. See e.g., specification, paragraphs 0021, 0023, 0024.² The features of Claim 5 could be particularly useful in the export business, where certain goods might be properly deliverable only to approved parties (i.e., deliveries are restricted).

Bohm does not disclose nor remotely suggest a searchable database including names of parties approved for receiving certain goods.

Also, Claim 5 depends, directly or indirectly, upon Claims 19, 18, and 1. For the reasons addressed herein regarding those particular claims, Claim 5's dependencies on those claims renders Claim 5 likewise patentable.

For at least the above reasons, the Applicants submit that Claim 5 is patentable over Bohm. The Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) be withdrawn.

4. The Bohm Patent Does Not Disclose or Suggest the Features of Claim 6

Claim 6 recites the method of Claim 5, further including the step of filtering said combined result according to at least one user selectable criteria. See also, e.g., specification, paragraphs 0029 and 0033.³

[0029] The user can also select the various sections and options which apply to the screening process in step 203. ...

[0033] ... In step 260 the combined set of matches are filtered to remove undesirable matches in accordance with the selections established in step 203.

Bohm does not disclose the feature of filtering said combined result according to at least one user selectable criteria.

² See fn 1, *supra*.
³ See fn 1, *supra*.

Further, Claim 6's dependencies on Claims 5, 19, 18, and 1, which have elsewhere been shown to be patentable, likewise renders Claim 6 patentable.

For at least the above reasons, the Applicants submit that Claim 6 is patentable over Bohm. The Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) be withdrawn.

5. The Bohm Patent Does Not Disclose or Suggest the Features of Claim 9

Claim 9 recites a system for comparing a query against data contained within at least one database comprising: (a) a central processing unit having at least one electronic communications port for receiving said query, wherein said central processing unit is attached to said at least one database; (b) at least one extraction tool accessible to said central processing unit for extracting a plurality of attributes from a plurality of user selectable match areas from said query; (c) at least one linguistic pattern analytical tool having characteristics at least some of which are user selectable and being accessible to said central processing unit for converting said plurality of attributes from said query into a plurality of linguistic pattern strings, and for comparing said plurality of linguistic pattern strings with at least one stored linguistic pattern string contained within at least one of said database for providing a set of matches; (d) said at least one linguistic pattern analytical tool accessible to said central processing unit for analyzing said set of matches to provide at least one set of matched attributes; and (e) at least one combining tool accessible to said central processing unit for combining all of said at least one set of matched attributes to provide a combined result. [Emphases added]

The discussions in the specification regarding the plurality of user selectable match areas, include the following:⁴

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See fn 1, *supra*.

[0029] ... The user may also select which information is used in determining a match and could include name, address, phone, fax, e-mail and other information. After the sections and options for the screening process are determined the present invention analyzes the information from the third party against data contained within a database.

[0030] In step 205, the present invention extracts a set of attributes from the query information, one for each potential match area, such as name, address, city, state, zip, etc.

Bohm does not disclose wherein the plurality of potential match areas (e.g., such as name, address, city, state, zip code, phone, fax, e-mail and other information) are user selectable. Further, Bohm does not disclose a linguistic pattern analytical tool having characteristics at least some of which are user selectable (as provided in element (c) of Claim 9). See also, e.g., specification, paragraphs 0011, 0029, 0136-0138.⁵

Moreover, similar to the case as with Claim 1, Bohm does not disclose or remotely suggest extracting attributes from match areas and then converting those attributes to linguistic pattern strings compared to the database being searched.

For at least the above reasons, the Applicants submit that Claim 9 is patentable over Bohm. The Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) be withdrawn

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See fn 1, *supra*.

6. The Bohm Patent Does Not Disclose or Suggest the Features of Claim 10

Claim 10 recites the system of Claim 9, further comprising at least one filtering tool accessible to said central processing unit for filtering said combined result according to at least one user selectable criteria. See also, e.g., specification, paragraphs 0029 and 0033.⁶

Bohm does not disclose or suggest the feature of at least one filtering tool accessible to said central processing unit for filtering said combined result according to at least one user selectable criteria.

Also, Claim 10 is dependent on Claim 9. Because Claim 9 has been shown above to be patentable, Claim 10's dependency on Claim 9 likewise renders Claim 10 patentable.

For at least the above reasons, the Applicants submit that claim 10 is patentable over Bohm. The Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection of claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) be withdrawn

7. The Bohm Patent Does Not Disclose or Suggest the Features of Claim 13

Claim 13 recites a computer program product for querying a database comprising computer readable program code embodied in the computer usable medium executable to perform: (a) receiving a query; (b) extracting a plurality of attributes from a plurality of user selectable match areas from said query; (c) providing at least one linguistic pattern analytical tool having characteristics at least some of which are user selectable for converting a plurality of information from said query into a plurality of linguistic pattern strings; (d) comparing, with at least one user selectable index property, said plurality of linguistic pattern strings with at least one stored linguistic pattern string contained within said database to provide a set of matches; (e) analyzing by at least one user selectable preference each match of said set of matches to provide at least one set of matched attributes; and (f) combining said at least one set of matched attributes to provide a combined result.

[Emphases added]

⁶ See fn 1, *supra*.

Bohm does not disclose any of the elements of Claim 13, particularly elements (b)-(e) which recite user selectability.

For at least the above reasons, the Applicants submit that Claim 13 is patentable over Bohm. The Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) be withdrawn.

8. The Bohm Patent Does Not Disclose or Suggest the Features of Claim 14

Claim 14 recites the computer program product of claim 13, further comprising computer readable code for filtering said combined result according to at least one user selectable criteria. [Emphasis added]

Bohm does not disclose computer readable code for filtering said combined result according to at least one user selectable criteria. See similar discussions regarding Claims 6 and 10 above.

Further, because Claim 14 depends on Claim 13 that has been shown above to be patentable, Claim 14 by said dependency is likewise patentable.

For at least the above reasons, the Applicants submit that Claim 14 is patentable over Bohm. The Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) be withdrawn

C. Paragraph 8 Rejections of Claims 8, 12, 16 and 17

Claims 8, 12, 16 and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being assertedly unpatentable over Bohm in view of Wheeler et al., U.S. Patent Number 6,618,727 (“Wheeler”) and Lambert, U.S. Patent Number 6,529,892 (“Lambert”). The Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

1. The Cited Combination Does Not Disclose the Features of Claim 8

Claim 8 recites the method of Claim 6, further comprising the step of employing at least one of a Metaphone based analysis, a Phonex based analysis, a Soundex based analysis, an N-gram based analysis, an edit-distance based analysis and a dictionaries based analysis.

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary or ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings, there must be a reasonable expectation of success, and the prior art reference must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, and not based on applicant's disclosure. MPEP § 2142. "It is never appropriate to rely solely on 'common knowledge' in the art without evidentiary support in the record, as the principal evidence upon which a rejection was based." MPEP § 2144.03 A. The record does not establish a motivation to combine as to the features of Claim 8.

Additionally, Claim 8 is dependent, directly or indirectly, on Claims 6, 5, 19, 18, and 1. Because such claims have been shown above to be patentable, Claim 8's dependency on Claims 6, 5, 19, 18, and 1 likewise renders Claim 8 patentable.

For at least the above reasons, the Applicants submit that Claim 8 is patentable over Bohm. The Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection of claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. 103 be withdrawn.

2. The Cited Combination Does Not Disclose the Features of Claim 12

Claim 12 recites the system of Claim 9, wherein said at least one linguistic pattern analytical tool is comprised of a Metaphone based analysis, a Phonex based analysis, a Soundex based analysis, an N-gram based analysis, an edit-distance based analysis and a dictionaries based analysis.

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary or ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings, there must be a reasonable expectation of success, and the prior art reference must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, and not based on applicant's disclosure. MPEP § 2142. "It is never appropriate to rely

solely on ‘common knowledge’ in the art without evidentiary support in the record, as the principal evidence upon which a rejection was based.” MPEP § 2144.03 A. The record does not establish a motivation to combine as to the features of claim 12.

Also, Claim 12 is dependent on Claim 9. Because Claim 9 has been shown above to be patentable, Claim 12’s dependency on Claim 9 likewise renders Claim 12 patentable.

For at least the above reasons, the Applicants submit that Claim 12 is patentable over the cited combination. The Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. 103 be withdrawn.

3. The Cited Combination Does Not Disclose the Features of Claim 16

Claim 16 recites the computer program product of Claim 13, wherein said computer readable program code is comprised of at least one of Metaphone based analysis code, Phonex based analysis code, Soundex based analysis code, N-gram based analysis code, edit-distance based analysis code and dictionaries based analysis code. These features are not disclosed, nor inherent in the cited combination.

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary or ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings, there must be a reasonable expectation of success, and the prior art reference must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, and not based on applicant’s disclosure. MPEP § 2142. “It is never appropriate to rely solely on ‘common knowledge’ in the art without evidentiary support in the record, as the principal evidence upon which a rejection was based.” MPEP § 2144.03 A. The record does not establish a motivation to combine as to the features of Claim 16.

Also, Claim 16 is dependent on Claim 13. Because Claim 13 has been shown above to be patentable, Claim 16’s dependency on Claim 13 likewise renders Claim 16 patentable.

For at least the above reasons, the Applicants submit that Claim 16 is patentable over the cited combination. The Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 16 under 35 U.S.C. 103 be withdrawn.

4. The Cited Combination Does Not Disclose the Features of Claim 17

Claim 17 recites a method for comparing a query against data contained within a database comprising the steps of: (a) receiving said query; (b) extracting a plurality of attributes from a plurality of user selectable match areas from said query; (c) converting said plurality of attributes, using a Metaphone based linguistic pattern analytical tool, into a plurality of Metaphone linguistic pattern strings; (d) comparing, using at least one user selectable index property, at least one of said plurality of Metaphone linguistic pattern strings with said at least one stored linguistic pattern string contained within said database to provide plurality of Metaphone matches; (e) converting said plurality of attributes, using a Phonex based linguistic pattern analytical tool into a plurality of Phonex linguistic pattern strings; (f) comparing, using at least one user selectable index property, at least one of said plurality of Phonex linguistic pattern strings with said at least one stored linguistic pattern string contained within said database to provide a plurality of Phonex matches; (g) converting said plurality of attributes, using a Soundex based linguistic pattern analytical tool into a plurality of Soundex linguistic pattern strings; (h) comparing, using at least one user selectable index property, at least one of said plurality of Soundex linguistic pattern strings with said at least one stored linguistic pattern string contained within said database to provide a plurality of Soundex matches; (i) converting said plurality of attributes, using an N-gram based linguistic pattern analytical tool into a plurality of N-gram linguistic pattern strings; (j) comparing, using at least one user selectable index property, at least one of said plurality of N-gram linguistic pattern strings with at least one stored linguistic pattern string contained within said database to provide a plurality of N-gram matches; (k) combining said plurality of Metaphone matches, said plurality of Phonex Matches, said plurality of Soundex matches, and said plurality of N-gram matches to form a set of matches; (l) analyzing said set of matches using said Metaphone based linguistic pattern analytical tool, Phonex based linguistic pattern analytical tool, said Soundex based linguistic pattern analytical tool, an edit-distance based linguistic pattern analytical tool, and a dictionaries based linguistic pattern analytical tool to provide at least one set of matched attributes; (m) combining said at least one set of matched attributes to provide a combined result; and (l) wherein at least one

of the actions of (a) through (m) above is implemented using at least one data processing system. [Emphases added]

The Applicants respectfully submit that the cited combination of Bohm, Wheeler and Lambert does not disclose all the features of Claim 17. With regards to extracting step (b), the cited combination does not disclose such extraction from a plurality of user selectable match areas from said query. Bohm discloses that the user is instructed as which match areas are to be entered. (Col. 2, ll. 62-66, providing, “[I]nquiry commands from the computer 100 are provided. These commands prompt the customer to enter the requested information in identified fields such as title and/or author when, for example, the items sought is a book.”)

With regards to each of the comparing steps, Bohm does not disclose that the comparing step uses at least one user selectable index property. This feature has been discussed in regards to Claim 1 above.

Additionally, to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary or ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings, there must be a reasonable expectation of success, and the prior art reference must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, and not based on applicant's disclosure. MPEP § 2142. “It is never appropriate to rely solely on ‘common knowledge’ in the art without evidentiary support in the record, as the principal evidence upon which a rejection was based.” MPEP § 2144.03 A. The record does not establish a motivation to combine as to the features of Claim 17.

For at least the above reasons, the Applicants submit that Claim 17 is patentable over the cited combination. The Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. 103 be withdrawn.

D. New Claims 18-24

The Applicants address below why Bohm (the Examiner's primary reference) is not applicable to new Claims 18-25.

1. Bohm Does Not Disclose the Features of Claim 18

Claim 18 depends on Claim 1 and additionally adds the feature that the plurality of potential match areas are user selectable. As noted above with regards to at least Claims 9 and 17, Bohm does not disclose such feature.

Also, Claim 18 is dependent on Claim 1. Because Claim 1 has been shown above to be patentable, Claim 18's dependency on Claim 1 likewise renders Claim 18 patentable.

For at least the above reason, the Applicants submit that Claim 18 is patentable over Bohm.

2. Bohm Does Not Disclose the Features of Claim 19

Claim 19 depends on Claim 18 and additionally adds the feature wherein said at least one linguistic pattern matching analytical tool used for converting has characteristics at least some of which are user selectable. See, e.g., specification:⁷

[0011] In a preferred embodiment, the present invention may be customized to enhance search results by allowing users to tune the present invention based on user data. By way of example, without intending to limit the present invention, users may select the number of characters to be contained in each N-Gram, and users may also select between types of N-Grams used by the present invention. N-Gram types available may include, but are not limited to, Alphabetic, Consonant, FDI, FML, and Numeric.

...
[0029] The user can also select the various sections and options which apply to the screening process in step 203.

...
[0136] The [name.matchTuning] section may further allow word match sensitivity to be customized through key/value pairs such as:

[0137] isWordMatchSensitivityDynamic=true/false
[0138] wordMatchSensitivity="#"

Bohm does not disclose or suggest such a feature.

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See fn 1, *supra*.

Additionally, Claim 19 is dependent, directly or indirectly, on Claims 18 and 1. Because Claims 19 and 1 have been shown above to be patentable, Claim 18's dependencies on Claims 19 and 1 likewise render Claim 19 patentable.

For at least the above reason, the Applicants submit that Claim 19 is patentable over Bohm.

3. Bohm Does Not Disclose the Features of Claim 20

Claim 20 depends on Claim 19 and additionally adds the feature wherein said at least one linguistic pattern matching analytical tool used for converting has characteristics at least some of which are user selectable. Bohm does not disclose does not disclose such feature (see, e.g., discussion above regarding Claim 9).

Additionally, Claim 20 is dependent on Claim 19. Because Claim 19 has been shown above to be patentable, Claim 20's dependency on Claim 19 likewise renders Claim 20 patentable.

For at least the above reason, the Applicants submit that Claim 20 is patentable over Bohm.

4. Bohm Does Not Disclose the Features of Claim 21

Claim 21 recites the method of Claim 5, further comprising: monitoring information about said party; monitoring information in said database; and responsive to any change to said party's information, automatically rescreening said party for determining whether said party is approved for receiving certain goods; and responsive to any change to said database information, automatically rescreening said party for determining whether said party is approved for receiving certain goods. See also, e.g., specification, paragraph 0024, discussing such feature.⁸

Bohm does not disclose such features.

Additionally, Claim 21 is dependent, directly or indirectly, on Claims 5, 19, 18, and 1. Because such claims have been shown above to be patentable, Claim 21's dependency on Claims 5, 19, 18, and 1 likewise renders Claim 21 patentable.

For at least the above reason, the Applicants submit that Claim 21 is patentable over Bohm.

5. Bohm Does Not Disclose the Features of Claim 22

Claim 22 recites the method of Claim 19, further comprising the step of filtering said combined result according to at least one user selectable criteria. See also, e.g., specification, paragraphs 0029 and 0033.

Bohm does not disclose such a step.

Additionally, Claim 22 is dependent, directly or indirectly, on Claims 19, 18, and 1. Because such claims have been shown above to be patentable, Claim 2's dependency on Claims 19, 18, and 1 likewise renders Claim 22 patentable.

For at least the above reason, the Applicants submit that Claim 22 is patentable over Bohm.

6. Bohm Does Not Disclose the Features of Claim 23

Claim 23 recites the method of Claim 19, further comprising the step of employing a Metaphone based analysis, a Phonex based analysis, a Soundex based analysis, an Alphabetic N-gram based analysis, a Consonant N-gram based analysis, a Numeric N-gram based analysis, an Fdi N-gram based analysis, an Fml N-gram based analysis, an edit-distance based analysis and a dictionaries based analysis.

Bohm does not disclose these features.

Additionally, Claim 23 is dependent, directly or indirectly, on Claims 19, 18, and 1. Because such claims have been shown above to be patentable, Claim 23's dependency on Claim 19 likewise renders Claim 23 patentable.

For at least the above reason, the Applicants submit that Claim 23 is patentable over Bohm.

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See fn 1, *supra*.

7. Bohm Does Not Disclose the Features of Claim 24

Claim 24 recites the method of Claim 19, further comprising designating, responsive to a match candidate containing an unusual word in an unusual words dictionary, said match candidate to be a match. See also, e.g., specification, paragraph 0162, “The [name.unusualWords] section contains an unusual words dictionary and lists words which are sufficiently unique that they cause any match candidate that contains an unusual word to match.”⁹

Bohm does not disclose such a feature.

Additionally, Claim 24 is dependent, directly or indirectly, on Claims 19, 18, and 1. Because such claims have been shown above to be patentable, Claim 24’s dependency on Claims 19, 18, and 1 likewise renders Claim 24 patentable.

For at least the above reason, the Applicants submit that Claim 24 is patentable over Bohm.

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See fn 1. *supra*.

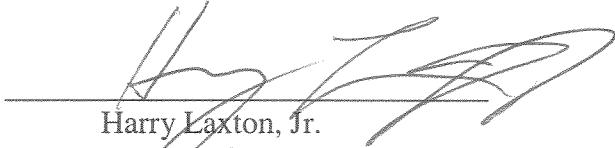
II. CONCLUSION

For at least the reasons set forth above, the Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1, 5, 6, 8-10, 12-14, and 16-24 are in condition for allowance. The Applicants therefore respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections and objections. The Applicants respectfully request that the present application be allowed and passed to issue.

Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative.

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